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3- NATIONAL 4-H CLUB CAMP...

(For immediate release)

4-H Club Members Visit Senate and House Agricultural Committees.

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Until farmers and farm organizations can agree on what they want, it will be difficult to get new farm program legislation, Senator Elmer Thomas, of Oklahoma, chairman of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, told 100 4-H Club boys and girls this morning.

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The 4-H'ers were visiting the Senate Office Building as part of their nineteen annual National 4-H Club Camp now going on. An equal number visited the House Office Building and were greeted by Representative Harold D. Cooley, of North Carolina, chairman of the House Committee on Agriculture, and other members of the House of Representatives.

Senator Thomas told the boys and girls that he is in favor of high farm prices, saying that the average income of all the people in the Nation is almost double the income of those who live on farms.

"Congress has been trying to help farmers for many years," he told the rural boys and girls. "The trouble is that the farm people often cannot agree among themselves on what should be done. When they are agreed, there is little difficulty in getting legislation passed. When they divide and begin to fight among themselves, all progress stops right there."

Senator Thomas said that "Right now the issue of farm support prices is acute," and mentioned the division of opinion among national farm organizations on what should be done.

He told the boys and girls that they are now visiting "the seat of government of the richest, strongest, most influential nation on earth. It is the leader of the free peoples of the world. Soon you will have to take your place in this Nation."

Flanked by two delegates from North Carolina - Joyce Auten of Charlotte and James Jackson of Godwin - Chairman Cooley of the House committee lauded 4-H Club work and commended the young people for their interest and activities in agriculture and home making. He also congratulated those responsible for administration of the 4-H Club program.

Speaking informally, Chairman Cooley pointed out that agriculture is "of paramount importance to the United States and to the world. A prosperous agriculture means a prosperous world."

Stressing the importance of intelligent planning to handle agricultural surpluses, Cooley pointed out the apparent lack of knowledge concerning the technique of distribution. We have emphasized production, he said, but have done little on distribution. He declared we must broaden our soil conservation program.

The 4-H delegates asked questions concerning the make-up of the committee and the committee process of considering legislation.

The young people, who will be in Washington through next Wednesday, spent the remainder of the morning visiting the Supreme Court and the Capitol buildings.